Libertarian National Convention promises political fireworks

Three candidates face off in "wide-open" presidential nomination

WASHINGTON, DC -- Looking for some **political excitement** this summer?

The Libertarian Party's presidential nominating convention -- held in Washington, DC over the July 4th weekend -- may be the only place to find it, says the party's National Chair Steve Dasbach.

"At least three candidates will be battling at our convention for the party's presidential nomination -- and the coveted **50-state ballot status** that goes with it," he said.

"By contrast, the Republican and Democratic conventions will be predictable and tedious. Bob Dole and President Clinton will just show up for the coronation."

Dasbach said the Libertarian Party's "wide-open" convention format almost guarantees political fireworks.

"Unlike the Republicans and Democrats, our convention delegates are not committed to vote for any particular presidential candidate. Every delegate can vote their conscience. So **it's a wide-open nominating process,** and anything can happen."

More than 730 Libertarian Party delegates from all 50 states will gather at the Hyatt Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington, DC from July 3rd to 7th to select a presidential candidate and ratify a national platform.

Competing for the party's presidential nomination are best-selling author Harry Browne, former talk show host Rick Tompkins, and anti-tax activist Irwin Schiff.

Dasbach said he expects the convention -- which will be **televised live on C-SPAN** -- will attract the attention of millions of Americans who don't like Clinton or Dole, and who don't plan to watch the other party's conventions. "To use a television metaphor, we're offering original programing and the other guys are showing re-runs," he said.

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